

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-84 were previously pending in the application. Claims 4-6, 10-11, 34-36, 40-41, 54-57, and 61-62 are canceled; claims 1, 7-9, 31, 37-38, 51, 58-60, 63, and 65 are amended; and new claims 85-106 are added herein. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 1-3, 7-9, 12-33, 37-39, 42-53, 58-60, and 63-106 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Claim Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter

In paragraph 2 of the office action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 12-19, 23-25, 31-33, 42-46, 51-56, 65-66, 69, 71, and 76 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Elko.

In paragraph 4, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 12-24, 31-33, 42-46, 51-53, 63-71, and 76-78 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moorer.

In paragraph 5, the Examiner rejected claims 4-5, 25, 34-35, and 54-56 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moorer in view of Elko.

In paragraph 6, the Examiner rejected claims 79-84 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moorer in view of Nelson.

In paragraph 8, the Examiner objected to claims 6-11, 26-30, 36-41, 47-50, 57-62, and 72-75 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that those claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

For the following reasons, the Applicant submits that all of the now-pending claims are allowable over the cited references.

Claims 1, 31, and 51

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of previously pending claims 4-6. As such, currently amended claim 1 is equivalent to previously pending claim 6 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that currently amended claim 1 is allowable. Since claims 2-3, 7-9, 12-30, 76, and 79-80 depend variously from claim 1, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

Claim 31 has been amended to include the features of previously pending claims 34-36. As such, currently amended claim 31 is equivalent to previously pending claim 36 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 36 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that currently amended claim 31 is allowable. Since claims 32-33, 37-39, 42-50, 77, and 81-82 depend variously from claim 31, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

Claim 51 has been amended to include the features of previously pending claims 54-57. As such, currently amended claim 51 is equivalent to previously pending claim 57 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 57 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that currently amended claim 51 is allowable. Since claims 52-53, 58-60, 63-75, 78, and 83-84 depend variously from claim 51, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

New Claims

Support for new claims 85-106 is found as follows:

<u>New Claim</u>	<u>Support</u>
85	Previously pending claims 1 and 24-26
86	Previously pending claims 1 and 29
87	Previously pending claim 30
88	Previously pending claims 31, 34, and 39
89	Previously pending claims 31 and 40
90	Previously pending claim 41
91	Previously pending claims 31 and 47
92	Previously pending claim 48
93	Previously pending claim 31 and 49
94	Previously pending claim 50
95	Previously pending claims 51 and 74
96	Previously pending claim 75
97	Previously pending claims 1, 4, and 9
98	Previously pending claims 1 and 10
99	Previously pending claim 11
100	Previously pending claims 1 and 27
101	Previously pending claim 28
102	Previously pending claims 51, 54, 55, and 60
103	Previously pending claims 51, 54, and 61
104	Previously pending claim 62
105	Previously pending claims 51 and 72
106	Previously pending claim 73

New claim 85 is equivalent to previously pending claim 26 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 85 is allowable.

New claim 86 is equivalent to previously pending claim 29 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 29 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 86 is allowable. Since new claim 87 depends from claim 86, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

New claim 88 is equivalent to previously pending claim 39 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 39 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 88 is allowable.

New claim 89 is equivalent to previously pending claim 40 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 40 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 89 is allowable. Since new claim 90 depends from claim 89, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

New claim 91 is equivalent to previously pending claim 47 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 47 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 91 is allowable. Since new claim 92 depends from claim 91, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

New claim 93 is equivalent to previously pending claim 49 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 49 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 93 is allowable. Since new claim 94 depends from claim 93, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

New claim 95 is equivalent to previously pending claim 74 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 74 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 95 is allowable. Since new claim 96 depends from claim 95, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

New claim 97 is equivalent to previously pending claim 9 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 97 is allowable.

New claim 98 is equivalent to previously pending claim 10 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 98 is allowable. Since new claim 99 depends from claim 98, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

New claim 100 is equivalent to previously pending claim 27 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 27 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 100 is allowable. Since new claim 101 depends from claim 100, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

New claim 102 is equivalent to previously pending claim 60 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 60 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 102 is allowable.

New claim 103 is equivalent to previously pending claim 61 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 61 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 103 is allowable. Since new claim 104 depends from claim 103, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

New claim 105 is equivalent to previously pending claim 72 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 72 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 105 is allowable. Since new claim 106 depends from claim 105, it is further submitted that that claim is also allowable.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, the Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections of claims under Sections 102(b) and 103(a) have been overcome. The Applicant submits further that new claims 85-96 patentably distinguish over the prior art.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now-pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Fees

During the pendency of this application, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment of any filing fees for presentation of extra claims under 37 CFR 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Mendelsohn & Associates, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0782.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply, requiring a petition for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time if not submitted with the reply.

Respectfully submitted,

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